

Newsletter – Friday 7th October 2022

Celebrations:

We had lots to celebrate again this morning, with lots of brilliant learning taking place and our school values being shown in so many ways!

This week or School Values certificates went to:

Archie for Generosity

Nathan for Love

Imogen for Generosity

Our certificates for learning this week went to:

Nate for brilliant progress in phonics; Alfie for some incredible science work on angles of reflection; Jessica for super progress and confidence in maths, especially in working with money; and Elliott for a wonderful poem about conkers for National Poetry Day!



Pantomime:

Is it too soon to mention Christmas....? 😊

We have provisionally booked tickets for a trip for Reception up to Year 6 to go to the Sands Centre Pantomime on Thursday 15th December and we will be sending a separate letter about this on Monday. This is just a quick mention to help you in your own Christmas planning.

Collection for GNAA:

We will be holding our annual collection for Great North Air Ambulance on Wednesday 2nd November, so if you are having a clear out of clothes, bedding etc over half term, you will be able to bring it down to school that morning.

Connection with School in India

As our subject leader for Geography and for Global Learning, Mrs Fennell has made a link with a school in Kolkata in India, with whom our KS2 class have been meeting via vide-call. Mrs Fennell has worked with the school there to make a plan of different shared activities over the course of this year so that both sets of children are able to compare and contrast what life is like in rural Cumbria and the city of Kolkata. Last week, the children met up and talked about their journeys to school, sharing pictures and talking about what they passed on the way. Our next meeting will be all about parties and what we do to celebrate festivals in both countries.

Just One Tin Appeal

As I mentioned in our letter about Harvest Festival earlier in the week, we will once again be collecting for North Lakes Food Bank and this year their appeal is entitled "Just One Tin". If you are able to do so, we would love you to send in a tin of food (soup, pasta, meat, fish, fruit, pudding, vegetables etc) or more than one tin if you are able to, with the aim being to make the longest line of tins possible. The Food Bank are aiming to make a line as long as the Shard is high from all of the collections made by local schools, so we will be measuring our tins in the last week of term!



Golden Table

As a reward for excellent table manners and for showing our school values at lunchtimes, we have introduced a Golden Table each Friday. Children from one of our table groups gets invited to the Golden Table which is set with a table cloth, a jug of squash and a small treat too. We have had three Golden Tables so far this term and children look forward to seeing if they have been chosen!

Attendance and Holidays in Term Time

Moving away slightly from celebrations, I need to ask for your support. At school, we are very understanding of the reasons around why parents would sometimes like to take their children away during term time, and I know these reasons are often financial given the expense of school holiday bookings.

However, I need your support to ensure that children are in school as much as possible. There is clear evidence that attendance of under 95% across your child's time in school has a negative impact on their outcomes and that this eventually puts them at a disadvantage compared to their peers who have been in school for more than 95% of the time.

I know some absences are unavoidable due to illness, medical appointments and family emergencies, but if your child is not in school as much as they should be this will impact on their learning. Headteachers are not allowed to authorise holidays in term time unless the circumstances are absolutely exceptional, and unfortunately these circumstances are rare.

Thank you for your support in this.

Dates for your diaries so far:

(More details and dates will follow)

Tuesday 18th October at 3pm – Harvest Festival in school

Friday 21st October – School closes for half term at 3:30pm (after school club until 5:30pm)

Monday 31st October – School reopens for second half of Autumn term

Tuesday 1st November and Wednesday 2nd November – Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 2nd November – GNAA collection

Thursday 15th December – Sands Pantomime trip

Tuesday 20th December – School closes for Christmas at 3:30pm